

**TOWN OF DARIEN  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
August 3, 2015**

**ATTENDANCE:** Jayme Stevenson, First Selectman; Susan Marks; Christopher (Kip) Hall;  
E. Reilly Tierney

**ABSENT:** Gerald Nielsen

**STAFF:** Karl Kilduff, Administrative Office; W. Lee Palmer, Human Resources  
Director: Ed Gentile, Public Works Director

**OTHERS:** Jack Hanley, ESCO; Govi Rao, Noveda Technologies

**CALL TO ORDER**

. The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

**INTRODUCTION OF W. LEE PALMER, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR**

Mr. Palmer addressed the Selectmen and said he was happy to be in Darien as Human Resources Director. He gave a brief outline of his extensive background in Human Resources including his most recent position as the Chief of Human Resources for the Norwalk Public Schools. He said some of the current priorities in Darien include updating employee guidelines and personnel procedures as well as negotiations with vendors.

**PRESENTATION on Purchase of Streetlights and Conversion to LED Lamps**

Jack Hanley of ESCO came forward with a PowerPoint presentation regarding the town's potential purchase of streetlights and LED conversion. Recent changes in regulations now allow CT towns to purchase their own streetlight from CL&+P. ESCO, a company based in Lenox MA, helps facilitate the purchase and conversions, as well as provides maintenance contracts on the light.

The figures presented by ESCO indicated for an initial investment of about \$350,000 and about \$17,000 in maintenance charges annually, the town could save about \$500,000 in lighting costs over a 10 year period. He said the LED lights were long lasting (up to 20 years), energy efficient, nearly maintenance free, and provided a much better quality of light than ordinary street lamps.

As a further investment, for approximately an additional \$82,000 (bringing the total investment figure up to \$432,888) controls could be added to the lights so they could be controlled from a

single source. Mr. Rao of Noveda technologies then spoke and said the added controls provided much more than simply an ability to control the lights remotely, but the devices in the street lamps could be utilized in many ways: including tracking bracelets worn by wandering Alzheimer's patients or the computer chips now often embedded in dogs to prevent them from being lost.

First Selectman Stevenson noted there had been some controversy about a potential cell tower being built in town and asked if someone the LED controls could be utilized to provide WIFI. Mr. Rao said yes, indeed the technology was envisioned with the idea of each streetlight being a WIFI hotspot.

There was some further discussion of how maintenance would be handled, in particular as many light poles would still be owned by CL&P, and the various types of LED lamps which could be purchased, considering factors such as cost and light quality.

Mr. Gentile spoke and said he thought the purchase and conversion would be good for the town. He expressed some concern that CT PURA (Public Utilities Regulatory Authority) might hinder the project. Mr. Rao and Mr. Hanley said the project would be compliant with PURA and federal regulations.

There was discussion and it was agreed the project should move forward with some preliminary study to be done by ESCO. The plans will be discussed again at the meeting of August 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

First Selectman Stevenson said it was important to note the Board had received a letter from Mr. David Dever, who was unable to attend the meeting, but who had concerns about the quality of the LED light. Attached to Mr. Dever's letter was an article about a how a town in California had successfully handled the issue of LED light quality.

### **FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT**

First Selectman Stevenson reported as follows:

- I am pleased to report that the Town of Darien has met the criteria for re-designation as a HEARTSafe Community. The HEARTSafe Community designation is awarded to communities who meet certain thresholds for CPR training, public access to defibrillation, CPR and AED trained and equipped First Responders and early advanced care, all in an effort to promote community awareness of the potential for saving lives of sudden cardiac arrest victims.

The Town of Darien had exceeded the minimum criteria for achieving this important community designation.

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2009</u>	
AED Units	59	48	41	(does not include the 28 AED's carried by Post 53 and First Responders – minimum standard is 10)
CPR/AED	1,400+			(Post 53 classes, 2013 Hands Only event, misc. Trainings- minimum standard is 50)

- Last week, the Town of Darien, through Moran Stanley & Co. LLC, was successful in issuing \$3.1 million of Aaa rated bonds at a fixed rate of 1.739% with maturities ranging from 2-10 years. Moody's has also reaffirmed our Ass on our \$70.8 million of outstanding bonds. Bond proceeds will be used to permanently finance the purchase of the Short Lane property as well as the new police boat, installation of an upgraded heating system at 35 Leroy and a variety of paving projects. Thank you to Finance Director Kate Buch for her work on the issue.

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Kilduff reported the Upper Pond project would get into a bidding process the next week, with work expected to begin in the fall. He said the project had been a successful collaborative effort which included public involvement and grant funding. First Selectman Stevenson noted the Upper Pond project was a notable and significant achievement for the town and the environment.

Mr. Kilduff said there had been two firms responding to the RFP for the EMS "re-do" study and he expected to receive their proposals by August 10<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Kilduff said the target had been met for the Leroy West parking lot, with 125 letters sent, garnering 80 responses. He said the waiting list had now been culled down to a reasonable number.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **a) Transfers**

Mr. Kilduff said for the past four years the buying and selling of Clock Hill homes had been managed by the Town and not the Housing Authority. He said after 4 years the Town has exhausted the wait list of buyers and needs to make sure a new one is created.

Mr. Kilduff said he was requesting a transfer of \$7,000 to allow the town to use the real-estate management company Imagineers to handle the waitlist and brokerage for Clock Hill Homes. Imagineers manages other town properties and is well equipped to handle the task and relieve the

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burden from the town. First Selectman Stevenson said managing the buying and selling of Clock Hill Homes had indeed been a burden on the Administrator's office.

**\*\* MR. HALL MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TRANSFER**

RESOLVED:

That the following transfer of appropriations is approved for referral to the Board of Finance:

<u>From:</u>			<u>To:</u>		
Acct No.	Account	Amount	Acct No.	Account	Amount
	Contingency	\$7,000	10102011-82007	Prof. Services	\$7,000
	TOTAL	\$7,000		TOTAL	\$7,000

**\*\* MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.**  
**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**APPOINTMENTS/RE-APPOINTMENTS**

**\*\* MR. HALL MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS:**

- a) Sig Buchmayer to the Beautification Commission for a 3-year term beginning on December 1, 2014 and expiring on November 30, 2017.
- b) Michael Nedder to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3-year term beginning on July 1, 2015 and expiring on June 30, 2018.
- c) Ruth Anne Ramsey as an Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3-year term beginning on July 1, 2015 and expiring on June 30, 2018
- d) Kevin Fullington as an Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3-year term beginning on July 1, 2015 and expiring on June 30, 2018.

**\*\* MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.**  
**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**AGENDA REVIEW**

It was agreed the following items would be on the next meeting's agenda:

- Update on building "shuffle"
- Further discussion of streetlight purchase LED/conversion
- Discussion of Clock Hill Homes

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**a) Special Meeting of July 20, 2015**

- \*\* MR. HALL MOVED APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF JULY 20, 2015.**
- \*\* MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- \*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**b) Regular Meeting of July 20, 2015**

The following changes were made to the minutes of the regular meeting of July 20: page 1, "Hamer" to "Hammer;" page 2, "Colonial Homes," to "Clock Hill Homes."

- \*\* MS. MARKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 20, 2015 AS AMENDED.**
- \*\* MR. HALL SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

- \*\* MR. HALL MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- \*\* MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- \*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. Lund  
Telesco Secretarial Services